

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MADRID 03483 051839Z

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SYE-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /006 W

-----051908Z 021617 /42

O 051553Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 129

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T MADRID 3483

SY CHANNEL

E.O. 11652: GDS-2

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJECT: SECRETARY VANCE'S TRIP TO LONDON, GENEVA, MADRID,  
AND TEHRAN FROM MAY 5 TO MAY 15, 1977

REF: STATE 095299

1. WARNING NOTICE - SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES  
AND METHODS INVOLVED. NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN  
NATIONALS.

A. AS OF 1530 HOURS ON 5 MAY 1977, NO INFORMATION  
HAS BEEN OBTAINED ON ANY DEMONSTRATIONS OR OTHER  
ACTIVITIES PLANNED TO TAKE PLACE BEFORE OR DURING  
THE SECRETARY'S VISIT THAT WOULD AFFECT HIS ACTIVITIES.

B. FURTHER, NO REPORTS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED TO  
INDICATE ANY TERRORIST ACTIONS OR POTENTIALLY HARMFUL  
OR EMBARRASSING DISSIDENT ACTIVITIES ARE PLANNED TO  
COINCIDE WITH VISIT. ACCORDING TO AN OFFICIAL SPANISH  
SERVICE, THE GENERAL SECURITY SITUATION IN MADRID AND  
IN SPAIN GENERALLY IS ESTIMATED TO BE GOOD. THEY  
FURTHER SAY THAT THERE ARE NO INDICATIONS OF PLANS TO  
EXECUTE TERRORIST ACTIVITIES OR TO STAGE ACTIONS THAT  
COULD EMBARRASS THE SPANISH OR UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTS.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MADRID 03483 051839Z

THEY JUDGE THE SPANISH PUBLIC IS IN GENERAL PLEASED BY  
THE RECEPTION THAT PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT ADOLFO  
SUAREZ GONZALEZ RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON WHICH PREDISPOSES  
IT FAVORABLY TOWARD SECRETARY VANCE'S VISIT. RESPON-  
SIBLE ELEMENTS IN THE SPANISH POLITICAL SPHERE DO NOT  
WANT ANYTHING TO OCCUR THAT COULD DAMAGE STABILITY IN  
THESE FEW WEEKS REMAINING BEFORE THE 15 JUNE PARLIA-

MENTARY ELECTIONS. THE SERVICE IS CONFIDENT THAT ITS CAPABILITY TO MONITOR EXTREMISTS ON BOTH THE LEFT AND THE RIGHT IS ADEQUATE.

--WE WOULD NOTE THAT THE POLITICAL TRANSITION HAS BEEN MARRED BY SPORADIC INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE, INCLUDING A RECENT ATTACK ON TWO POLICEMEN, BUT THAT U.S. OFFICIALS HAVE NOT, TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, BEEN TARGETS IN THE LAST YEAR.

C. THE POLITICAL CLIMATE IN SPAIN TODAY IS THAT OF A NATIONAL ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN IN A WESTERN DEMOCRACY EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE IMPORTANT DIFFERENCES (AND SOME TENSIONS) BECAUSE THIS CAMPAIGN IS PART OF A TRANSITION FROM FRANCO'S AUTHORITARIAN RULE TO HOPEFULLY, A MODERN DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM.

--THERE WILL BE CONSIDERABLY PRESS PUBLICITY GIVEN TO THE SECRETARY'S VISIT, DEALING WITH THE SUBSTANCE OF IT BUT ALSO WITH OTHER GLOBAL ISSUES IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH SPAIN. CONSEQUENTLY, IN ADDITION TO THE FOCUS OF THE MILITARY RELATIONSHIP EMBODIED IN THE TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION THERE WILL BE SOME FOCUS ON THE NON-SECURITY ASPECTS OF OUR RELATIONSHIP, PARTICULARLY ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS AND, TO A LESSER EXTENT, THE COOPERATIVE ENDEAVORS UNDER THE TREATY SUCH AS THOSE IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

--IN A BROADER SENSE, THE TRIP WILL BE SEEN AS CONTINUED EVIDENCE OF U.S. SUPPORT FOR THE DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESS AND AS TIED IN WITH OUR HOPES THAT SPAIN WILL EVENTUALLY ENTER NATO, A CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECT HERE. FINALLY, SOME WILL INTERPRET THE TRIP, PARTICULARLY IN  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MADRID 03483 051839Z

CONJUNCTION WITH THE RECENT SUAREZ VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES AND VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S UPCOMING VISIT TO MADRID (AS PART OF THIS EUROPEAN TRIP) AS EVIDENCE OF UNITED STATES' SUPPORT FOR SUAREZ IN THE FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS. AT THE SAME TIME THE SECRETARY'S TRIP IS SO CLEARLY MANDATED BY THE TREATY THAT ANY CRITICISM OF HIS VISIT ON THESE GROUNDS SHOULD BE MUTED AND EASILY DEALT WITH. STABLER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009